

# Mohave County Miner.

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## Mudd at Kelvin.

Consulting Engineer Mudd, of the Ray Copper Company consolidated and the Gila Copper company, was at Ray and Kelvin last week, looking over the situation and was well satisfied with the progress General Manager Wiseman is making in getting the new concentrating plant at Kelvin in order for operation, also with the results of developments in the company's mines. They are finding ore in all the workings. In fact the Ray mountain seems to be all ore and the development work is being directed with a view to adopting the milling system when the management is ready to inaugurate ore extraction on a large scale. This system is economical and the Ray property is admirably conditioned for a successful operation of the system. In fact, a majority of the properties along mineral creek are so conditioned as to make this system practical in their operation. The new mill of the Ray company at Kelvin will be ready for a trial run inside of a few weeks and it will be placed in commission promptly, regardless of the fall in the price of copper. The truth is, large copper mines, like the Ray, can be worked at a good profit with copper at 12 cents per pound. A few years ago, when copper went up to 14 cents after being down to 11 cents, the large copper producers felt as if they were in clover, so to speak. They could produce copper then at a cost of 8 cents, under favorable conditions, and such properties as the United Verde could produce the red metal at a cost of seven cents. Since then there has been considerable improvement in the methods of mining and ore treatment and in mining and reduction machinery all of which tends to lessen the cost of producing copper. It is reasonable, therefore, to assume that if there was a good profit in 14 cent copper a few years ago there should certainly be still greater profit in producing copper at 14 cents at the present time. In view of these facts we do not anticipate that the copper industry of Arizona will show much decrease in activity or that the demand for Arizona copper properties will fall off to any great extent. In any event the effect on the copper industry generally will be only temporary as the demand for the metal will soon bring the selling price of it back to its proper level. The Wall Street gamblers cannot long keep inoperative the law of supply and demand. Last year the demand was three per cent. in excess of the production and unless there should be an unusual diminution in the demand there will be no excess of production over the demand this year. To the thoughtful operator and copper mining capitalist there is no real discouragement in the present copper situation.—Florence Blade.

## New York Arizona Makes Big Gold Strike.

News reached Clifton this week of a big gold strike made on the Buzzard shadow claim of the New York-Arizona company. The town of Morenci is greatly excited over the strike. Samples have been exhibited and it is said that the rock is wholly impregnated with the golden metal. The Buzzard Shadow claim is well known in this district for its extremely occasional rich strikes and it is quite probable that the recent strike has better staying qualities than anything that has ever been struck before. The management of the company has been doing a great deal of development work on the Buzzard Shadow and a round of shots this week revealed a body of extremely rich ore. The strike consists of the exposure of a well defined vein 3 to 9 inches wide, that will assay into the thousands. The extent of the vein is not yet known, but there is enough in sight to insure the company a handsome sum. It will be remembered that the Porter lease on this claim several years ago took out several thousand dollars worth of gold ore. Work is now being pushed rapidly to prove up the extent of the new strike. The company started operations the first of this year, since which time they have added machinery, put up bunk houses, an assay office, besides

doing a considerable amount of development work. Local people have purchased the stock freely and if the recent strike turns out anything like is expected, they will all have sufficient reason to be glad that they invested. The editor of the Era has not yet seen the manager of the company, but an effort will be made to obtain more facts about the strike, which will be published in the next issue. That particular section is well known for its gold values and the Era is of the opinion that the New York-Arizona company strike will be the cause of much excitement in that district. The Gold Belt Development and Reduction company is working a promising gold claim in the neighborhood of the rich strike and prospects are exceedingly good for an extensive milling proposition, as they are down 200 feet and have a good many thousand tons of gold ore already proven. The ore carries a good average, being in the neighborhood of 20% to the ton, with about 12 feet width.—Copper Era.

## The Wage Situation.

Ever since the decline in the price of copper numerous reports have gained foot as to what effect the decrease would have upon wages. It seems to be generally understood that the copper companies are up against it, should the price of copper reach a lower point than thirteen cents. The increased cost of fuel, in addition to the eight-hour scale, besides other extras, that were not contended with during other slumps in copper, render it impossible for the mining companies to prosper, and as a consequence rumors are to the effect that a general reduction in wages, ranging from 25 to 75 cents per day, will be inaugurated about the 20th of this month. This is for an eight-hour scale. Another rumor has it that the present scale of wages will be maintained if the men will go back to twelve-hour shift.

It is not likely that many companies will continue operation very long at a loss, and it is possible that some arrangement will be made, whereby the price of copper will govern the wage scale.

A great many of the men are not in favor of either longer hours or a reduction in pay, hence there will probably be some friction before the matter is settled. Copper still continues on the downward line and things will come to a show-down before very long. It is not only this district that is up against it under present conditions. All of them are practically in the same shape, and men are being discharged in every possible instance.

It seems to be the general opinion that copper will not remain at a low figure very long as the production has been cut almost in two. However, the next few months will most likely witness lean pickings in copper camps.—Copper Era.

## No Reason to be Despondent.

L. Vogelstein says: There is no truth in the rumored sale of 200,000,000 pounds of copper at 13 1-2 cents for several reasons:

1. Because there is nobody to buy 200,000,000 pounds today at 13 1-2 cents and that is really sufficient reason.
2. There is hardly an accumulation of 200,000,000 pounds of copper.
3. It is very doubtful whether the United Metals Selling company would be willing to sell anybody such a large quantity of copper at the lowest price so far reached.

While things look very blue today, there is no reason to be despondent about the copper situation. Copper is being used in increasing quantities year by year. Production has been curtailed tremendously, and when people wake up from their present hysteria, there will be a good demand for copper again, and prices are bound to soar upward. The world should not forget that when Secretan failed in 1889 there were stocks of 200,000 tons of copper on hand, while production was hardly over 250,000 tons. Production today is about three times as great, while stocks are half as large.—Boston Commercial.

## Oil Operators Come to Town.

Not a single day passes now but what the evidence of a genuine oil boom in Utah becomes more apparent. It is going to break away in whirlwind fashion before many months have passed or every oil operator and every oil expert who has been in the southern field during the past sixty or ninety days will have to revise his opinions of what is going to happen and admit that what they don't know about oil and oil booms would make a large volume.

Monday night C. H. Hammett and F. H. Hamlin, two wealthy Chicago oil operators who have been prominently identified with the Illinois, Kansas and Indian Territory fields for several years, reached the city and before leaving again they will spend considerable time in the Virgin City field and most likely make heavy investments there. Not only that, but if they find the field what it is represented to be from the reports that has reached them during the past few weeks, they will begin laying their wires for the introduction into this state of mammoth refining works. These men are not connected with any big corporations or the oil trust, they operate independently and tackle any field that seems to offer good opportunities.

It is learned that within the next few days there will be a number of experts out there who represent great London operators who tackle the fields of the world in competition with the Standard Oil company, but who have not become very aggressive as yet. Officials of Southern Utah Oil company and others express the unqualified opinion that it will not be more than a month or two until reports of wells being brought in will become every day talk.—Salt Lake Herald.

## San Pedro Mine Closed.

An Albuquerque special says: Owing to the drop in the price of copper, the big San Pedro mine, operated by the Santa Fe Gold and Copper company, which during the past four months has been working a force of 300 men, will close down until there is an upward movement in the price of the red metal.

Until last June the famous San Pedro mine had been idle since 1898, but when copper went into the 25-cent class, a large force of miners were at once put to work. The stock of the company has been quoted steadily on the New York and Boston markets at 2 1-2 to 2 3-4, and it has been generally understood for the past several years that control of the stock had passed into the hands of the Guggenheims.

The San Pedro is essentially a low grade proposition, but past and recent development work has established the fact that an immense body of the low grade ore is in sight. Both mining and transportation charges, however, are so heavy as to make it unprofitable to operate the mine when copper is so low.

## New Company Will Work Old Bonanza.

Following the purchase of the old Bonanza mine at the Canyon come the incorporating of the Eldorado-Searchlight Mining Co. It is a million-dollar corporation formed under the laws of Arizona.

In addition to the Bonanza, which is an old producer—there being the remains of an adit near the shaft, showing that considerable ore has been worked on the ground, the company also owns the Eagle group, comprising four claims. In general the property lies two miles east of the Techitup. There is a good wagon road leading to the property and water has been developed in one of the shafts at a depth of 100 feet. In addition to the ore in sight in the various workings there is a large quantity broken on the dumps—ore which could hardly have been handled at a profit in the olden days but which is now considered to be a very good grade.—Searchlight Bulletin.

## Rich Rock in Thurman.

Most sensational reports are received from the Lloyd-Searchlight. Superintendent Willis has made known the

results of late assays, several of which run up into four figures. These samples came from a depth of 180 feet. Here the vein waded into the shaft and grab samples were taken and brought to Searchlight for analysis. A 27 inch streak ran 2568\$, while another streak lying alongside returned 168\$. Equally remarkable was the assay of the decomposed granite on the foot wall side which went 19\$. In all there appears to be 12 feet of vein matter. Very naturally Supt. Willis is very much elated and is more than anxious to reach the 200-ft. level, from which depth the vein will be thoroughly exploited.

The property of the Lloyd-Searchlight, a Santa Barbara company, is located 17 miles south of Searchlight at what is called Camp Thurman. From the grass-roots it has been a sensational proposition and the developments tend to show that the vein is improving with depth both as regards size and values.—Searchlight Bulletin.

## Miners Laid Off.

The Gazette states that reports from Globe are that hundreds of miners, possibly 800, have been laid off in the past couple of weeks in and about that city. It is understood that the Old Dominion has dropped about 500, while work has been stopped on the Copper Hill and Black Hawk properties of the Arizona Commercial. The Rattler, a comparatively small property, closed down yesterday. There was a rumor that the Old Dominion smelter was to be closed down October 1st, but the plant is running at full capacity still. Boston reports are to the effect that it costs 14 cents a pound to produce and market copper at the Old Dominion, a figure that would leave practically no margin of profit at present prices for the red metal. Most of the men being discharged are foreigners and practically all are unmarried men. The benedicts and the old employees are being spared.

Many of the Slavonians are leaving bound for the Black Hills of South Dakota, whence many of them came to Globe, driven by a fire in the Homestake mine at Lead and because of the better wages prevailing. Word has come from the hills that men are wanted again and the demand is being filled from the Globe camp. In a single day the outgoing sales of the Gila valley railroad for miners' tickets aggregated 1175\$.

Following its announced intention to carry out a policy of retrenchment, the Tombstone Consolidated Mines company laid off a large number of its working force and has ceased to operate the Tranquility, Silver Thread and Tribute shafts. The number of men affected by the lay-off will probably reach close to fifty. It is an-

nounced by one of those in charge of the work that the rule of retaining in employ all those who are men of family and who own their own homes in Tombstone has been followed where possible and practicable. A number of men formerly employed in the Silver Thread and other shafts where work has been suspended were put on at the Boom shaft, the principal working of the company. Numbers of those who found themselves out of employment are leaving for other parts, many of them going into the Dragoon mining district where development work is more active than in any other section of Cochise county. Owners of property are already complaining of the effects of this recent slump which has left them with vacant houses where a few weeks ago the income from property interests was probably as high if not higher than in any other part of the county. No less than a score of houses are already vacated and it is probable that others will be without tenants before the end of the present month.—Review.

## Ore Strike in Santa Rita.

A rich silver strike has been made in the Santa Rita and there is considerable excitement as the result. Ed. Castaneda of Benson, who is operating there, received news from his partner, John D. Allen, that in the latter part of the forty feet of work, which had been let by contract, the workmen had uncovered an eight-foot ledge of silver ore on their Santa Rita property. Samples sent to the Twin Buttes for an assay shows a value of 1700\$ to the ton in silver. This property is known as La Balla and lies about 80 miles south from Tucson and within 20 miles of the Mexican border. They have a tunnel now in about 390 feet. The ore resembles very much the famous World's Fair ore in the Patagonia district.—Tucson Citizen.

The Gibson Copper company continues shipping ore to the Old Dominion smelter, about fifty tons being received each day. The Gibson has now more men on its pay rolls than it had last month and Bellevue camp is a busy one. Excellent headway is being made in the new three-compartment shaft of the company. It is now down to the third level, the work having been expedited by sinking and upraising simultaneously and the connection was made several days ago. The timbering, however, has not yet been contemplated. The shaft will be sunk to the fourth level, which is being extended to meet the shaft. A connection has also been made between the Pasqual tunnel and the surface by means of an upraise which assists greatly in properly ventilating the mine.—Copper Era.

**DR. PRICE'S**  
**CREAM**  
**Baking Powder**

**A pure, Grape**  
**cream of tartar**  
**baking powder—Makes**  
**Food More Delicious and Whole-**  
**some—No Alum—No Phosphates**  
**Care Must be Taken to Keep Alum**  
**From the Food**

Dr. Alonzo Clark: "A substance (alum) which can derange the stomach should not be tolerated in baking powder."  
Prof. S. W. Johnson, Yale College: "I regard their (alum and soluble alumina salts) introduction into baking powders as most dangerous to health."